

states that his *C. minor* is "similar to *C. grandis*, but much smaller." The marked specific difference is that the tail is jet-black in the larger, uniform brown in the smaller species. Of the latter I was the first describer (*Ibis*, 1882, p. 137), but erroneously identified it with *L. fulvipennis* (Hombr. & Jacq.), of which I had not seen the type. Clearly *Calornis minor* (Sharpe No. 2) cannot stand, and I therefore propose for it the name *Calornis dichroa* = *Sturnoides minor*, Rams. = *C. fulvipennis*, Tristr. (nec Jacq. & Puch.).

11. NYCTICORAX MANDIBULARIS, Grant.

Native name "Kopi."

This specimen agrees with the type in wanting the white feathers of the crest, though otherwise fully adult.

12. TRINGOIDES HYPOLEUCUS (L.).

Native name "Churi."

XXX.—*Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club.*

Nos. XXV.—XXVII.

No. XXV. (March 30th, 1895.)

THE twenty-fourth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of March, 1895.

*Chairman*: HOWARD SAUNDERS.

*Members present*:—E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, W. E. DE WINTON, ERNST HARTERT, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, H. J. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), G. E. SHELLEY, C. A. WRIGHT.

*Visitors*: C. E. FAGAN, FREDERICK GILLETT, C. B. RICKETT.

The CHAIRMAN read extracts of letters received from Mr. P. L. SCLATER, relative to birds observed on his excursion to Egypt. It was remarked that all the Gulls seen on the passage out and the Egyptian Kites on the Nile alike carried their feet straight out under the base of the tail.

MR. HOWARD SAUNDERS made some remarks upon the Skimmers (*Rhynchopinæ*), with special reference to the species found in America. After studying the specimens in the collection of the Natural History Museum, he found three forms which he considered to be specifically distinct. Of these, *Rhynchops nigra* has a nearly white tail, a broad pure white alar band, conspicuously white parapteral feathers, and white under wing-coverts; it inhabits the temperate and tropical east coast of North America. *R. melanura* has dark brown rectrices, with very narrow pale borders to the outer webs, a slight alar band of dull white, shows no white on the parapteral feathers, and has smoke-coloured under wing-coverts; it inhabits the great rivers of South America which drain from the Andes (ascending to the cataracts), and also the Pacific coasts of Chile, Peru, and Ecuador. On the coast of South Brazil and Argentina, ascending the Paraná and Paraguay to their head-waters, is found a species which chiefly resembles the northern *R. nigra*, but differs from it in having a smaller alar band, and the rectrices chiefly brown, with broad white edges to the outer webs. This he proposed to call

RHYNCHOPS INTERCEDENS, sp. n.

♂. Similis *R. nigrae*, sed fascia alari alba angustiore, et rectricibus præcipuè brunneis, latè albo marginatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 18 poll., alæ 15·25.

THE HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for inspection a new species of Bower-bird, which he characterized as follows:—

ÆLUREDUS JOBIENSIS, sp. nov.

This species is nearest to *Æ. melanocephalus*, Ramsay, from British New Guinea, but shows sufficient differences to justify its separation. The head is black, uniformly spotted with buffish yellow, and does not show the black band on the sides of the occiput, so conspicuous in *Æ. melanocephalus*. Upper neck and back brownish buff, with black margins. Ear-coverts consisting of the large patch of bristly feathers found in its three nearest allies, but this patch passes straight into the black of the throat, without any marked area of

pale feathers surrounding it, as in *Æ. melanotis*, *Æ. melanocephalus*, and *Æ. arfakianus*. The pale spots on the tips of the wing-coverts not very distinct, and of a dusky buff colour. Throat, breast, and uppermost part of abdomen black, with a small central buff spot in each feather, while in *Æ. melanotis* (from the Aru Islands) and *Æ. melanocephalus* these feathers are buff or whitish, with narrow black borders. The breast is much greener in *Æ. arfakianus* from Mt. Arfak. Lower abdomen and under tail-coverts buff with dusky margins, shaded here and there with green. In all other respects most similar to *Æ. melanocephalus*, but the feathers on the sides of the neck just behind the ear-coverts are almost uniform buff, having nearly lost their dark margins. Culmen 1.5 inch, wing 6.5, tail 5.4, tarsus 1.65.

*Hab.* Island of Jobi, New Guinea, where it was procured by the hunters of the late Mr. Bruijn. Type in Rothschild Museum.

MR. OGILVIE-GRANT exhibited skins of some rare Francolins collected at Nassa, on the south-eastern shore of the Victoria Nyanza. One of these was *Pternistes rufopictus*, Reichen., a remarkably handsome species, belonging to the bare-throated group of Francolins. A second species was new to science, and he proposed to call it

FRANCOLINUS HUBBARDI, sp. n.

- ♂. Similis *F. coqui*, Smithi, sed gastræo toto concolore, pallidè fulvo, minimè nigro transfasciato.  
 ♀. Præpectore ferè griseo, minimè rufescente distinguenda.  
 Long. tot. 10 poll., alæ 5.6, caudæ 2.6, tarsi 1.6.

MR. OGILVIE-GRANT also described a new species of *Rhizothera*, from examples in the British Museum, as

RHIZOTHERA DULITENSIS, sp. n.

- ♂. Similis *R. longirostri*, sed præpectore et pectore totis griseis, gastræo reliquo albicante: pedibus schistaceis.  
 Long. tot. 13 poll., alæ 7.7, caudæ 3, tarsi 2.25.  
 ♀ *ad.* Similis *R. longirostri* ♀, sed tectricibus alarum ferè saturatè brunneis, maculis fulvescentibus rarioribus distinguenda.

*Hab.* Mt. Dulit, Sarawak, 4000 feet (*C. Hose*).

The describer pointed out that the true *R. longirostris* is also found in Borneo, as examples had been obtained by Mr. Alfred Everett at Marup and Busan in Sarawak. These specimens are identical with others from the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra, and it is evident that *R. dulitensis* is a mountain-form of *R. longirostris*.

Capt. G. E. SHELLEY called attention to the fact that *Crithagra rendalli* of Tristram, recently described in the 'Ibis,' was, in all probability, the same as *C. crassirostris* of Peters, described from Mozambique. Peters published only a short and somewhat vague description of the latter species; but, while agreeing with Dr. Bowdler Sharpe that *C. mosambica*, described by Peters at the same time, was referable to *C. ictera*, Capt. Shelley thought it hardly likely that he would have described the latter species twice over in the same paper. A comparison of the types was desirable, and the attention of Dr. Reichenow was called to this suggestion.

Mr. W. E. DE WINTON exhibited some very large specimens of the Common Guillemot (*Uria troile*) which had been obtained off the Yorkshire coast during the recent severe weather, and Mr. OGILVIE-GRANT also drew attention to a singularly large individual procured near Cromarty, N.B.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON brought for exhibition some clutches of the eggs of the Harlequin Duck (*Cosmonetta histrionica*), the Long-tailed Duck (*Harelda glacialis*), and the Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus hyperboreus*), procured by him during the past summer in Iceland. The eggs of the Ducks were beautifully arranged on the down; a method of exhibition much admired by the Members present.

Mr. F. GILLET made some remarks on his recent travels through Somali-land to the Galla country, when he accompanied Dr. Donaldson Smith's expedition.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE announced that the first collections from Dr. Donaldson Smith's expedition had just arrived in

this country, and that several of the species of birds represented in them appeared to be new to science. Among them were the following :—

COSSYPHA DONALDSONI, sp. n.

*C. similis C. subrufescenti*, Bocage, sed saturatius schistaceus, et rectricibus externis concoloribus, haud schistaceo marginatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·8 poll., alæ 3·1.

DRYODROMAS SMITHI, sp. n.

*D. similis D. rufifronti* (Rüpp.), sed rectricum externarum pogoniis externis omnino albis distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·8 poll., alæ 1·8.

CISTICOLA DODSONI, sp. n.

*C. similis C. subruficapillæ*, sed pileo castaneo concolore, et aspectu externo remigum minimè rufescente distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·4 poll., alæ 1·7.

MIRAFRA GILLETTI, sp. n.

*M. similis M. nevæ* et *M. sabotæ*, sed uropygio et supra-caudalibus schistaceo-griseis, et rectricibus angustè arenario fimbriatis facilè distinguenda. Long. tot. 6 poll., alæ 3·4.

CAPRIMULGUS DONALDSONI, sp. n.

*C. similis C. fervido*, Sharpe, sed minor, torquibus cervicali et præpectoralis latè castaneis, maculis magnis ochraceo-fulvis conspicuè marmoratis distinguendus. Long. tot. 7·8 poll., alæ 5·2.

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No. XXVI. (April 30th, 1895.)

THE twenty-fifth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of April, 1895.

*Chairman* : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

*Members present* :—E. BIDWELL, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), W. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, Major HORACE TERRY, AUBYN TREVOR-BATTYE, JOHN YOUNG.

*Visitors* : J. W. CASTLE, H. STEVENS, Prof. TRAQUAIR, W. F. URWICK.

Mr. SCLATER gave a short account of the tour he had recently made up the Nile from Cairo to Wadi Halfeh and back. Travelling by the post-steamer, he had been unable to make collections, but with the aid of field-glasses had identified examples of about 50 species of birds. In February above the First Cataract many birds were already breeding, although the ordinary migrants from the south had not yet arrived. Young Hoopoes and Wheatears fully fledged were offered for sale by the natives. A nest and two eggs of the Pale Crag-Swallow (*Cotile obsoleta*) had been taken from a ledge in the smaller temple at Abou Simbel. The necessity for a new edition of Shelley's 'Birds of Egypt' was insisted on.

Mr. BIDWELL exhibited, by permission of Mr. H. Stevens, a handsome specimen of the egg of the Great Auk (*Alca impennis*), from the collection of Sir F. Milner. The specimen was especially remarkable for the "pitted" nature of the shell.

Mr. STEVENS showed a large photograph of the Great Auk, taken from a specimen in Sir F. Milner's collection, which had been remounted by Mr. Cullingford of Durham, and which was considered to be one of the finest known specimens of this bird.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE brought some specimens of birds from the collection recently made by Dr. Donaldson Smith, during his expedition from Somali-land to Lake Rudolf. In addition to those species described at the last Meeting of the Club, Dr. Sharpe exhibited examples of the following new species:—

TURACUS DONALDSONI, sp. n.

*T. pileo anteo viridi, postice pallidè coccineo, et maculâ magnâ anteculari albâ distinguendus. Long. tot. 16·5 poll., alæ 7·2.*

*Hab. Meo.*

LOPHOCEROS SIBBENSIS, sp. n.

*L. similis L. deckeni*, tectricibus alarum nigris, minimè albo maculatis, sed statura minore et rostro toto nigro distinguendus. Long. tot. 15 poll., alæ 6·3.

*Hab.* Sibbe.

Mr. A. TREVOR-BATTYE exhibited a curious white variety of a Brent Goose, which he had procured at Kolguev Island, and gave an account of the mode of capture of these Geese by the Samoyedes.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE referred to the loss which the Club had recently sustained, by the death of its esteemed member, Mr. Edward Hargitt, and gave an account of his life and work, with especial reference to the series of paintings of Woodpeckers which Mr. Hargitt had executed for his proposed 'Monograph of the *Picidae*.' These paintings were 1300 in number, and had taken twelve years in execution. They comprised portraits of every type submitted to him, and of every variation in plumage which existed in his own collection of Woodpeckers, and in those of other public and private Museums to which the deceased artist had had access.

On the motion of the Chairman, a letter of condolence with Miss Hargitt, who had been for many years his faithful coadjutor in this preparation for his 'Monograph,' was passed by the Meeting.

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No. XXVII. (May 31st, 1895.)

THE twenty-sixth meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 22nd of May, 1895.

*Chairman* : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

*Members present* :—E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON, J. GERRARD, Col. H. W. FEILDEN, Major A. P. LOYD, R. NESHAM, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, H. J. PEARSON, C. E. PEARSON, FRANK PENROSE, DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., R. H. READ, Capt. SAVILE G. REID, HOWARD SAUNDERS (*Treasurer*), HENRY

SEEBOHM, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, A. TREVOR-BATTYE, COL. YERBURY, JOHN YOUNG.

*Visitors*: DR. COTMAN, J. H. FLEMING (Toronto), EDWARD HAGGARD, H. STEVENS, R. WARREN.

MR. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT gave an account of his recent expedition to the Salvage Islands, between the Canaries and Madeira, and exhibited specimens of some of the most interesting of the species obtained by him; among these were examples of *Pelagodroma marina* and *Oceanodroma cryptoleucura* (see Wils. & Evans, *Aves Hawaienses*, part iv.).

COL. YERBURY gave some details of his visit to Aden during the past winter, when he had been successful in identifying several species of birds which had previously been undetermined.

MR. HENRY SEEBOHM exhibited and made remarks on some specimens of *Pseudototanus guttifer* and *Eurhino-rhynchus pygmæus*, recently received by him in a collection from the mouth of the Amoor River.

MR. E. LORT PHILLIPS sent for exhibition specimens of new species of *Merula* and *Corvus* from Somaliland. These two species had been discovered during the past winter spent by him in that country. These he proposed to call

MERULA LUDOVICIÆ, sp. n.

Similis *M. simillimæ* et *M. nigropileo* ex peninsulâ Indicâ, sed facie laterali et gutture toto nigerrimis facile distinguenda. Long. tot. 8·3 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 4·65, caudæ 3·9, tarsi 1·2.

CORVUS EDITHÆ, sp. n.

*C. similis C. corone*, sed minor, et corporis plumis ad basin dimidiatim purè albis, alis minimè viridi nitentibus sed purpurascenti-chalybeis distinguendus. Long. tot. 16·5 poll., culm. 1·95, alæ 12·4, caudæ 6·2, tarsi 2.

MR. BIDWELL exhibited an old model of a Great Auk's egg, believed to have been made in France about the year 1853, and undoubtedly one of the first models ever made.



It was a copy of one of the eggs formerly in the possession of the late T. H. Potts, and purchased by the late Lord Garvagh at Stevens' Auction Rooms on May 24th, 1853, for £30.

DR. BOWDLER SHARPE made some remarks on the interesting collection of birds brought by Colonel Yerbury from the neighbourhood of Aden, a full account of which will appear in 'The Ibis.' Special attention was drawn to the specimens of *Argya* and *Myrmecocichla*. The former had been alluded to by Lieut. Barnes (Ibis, 1893, p. 180) as *Argya*, sp. inc., and it was therefore interesting to find that it was the true *A. squamiceps* (Cretzschm.), though this was to have been expected. On comparing the Palestine bird usually called *A. squamiceps*, it proved to belong to a different species, and a mistake had been made in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' vol. vii. p. 395, in uniting the two. The Palestine bird should be kept distinct as *Argya chalybea* (Bp.).

Another instance of a difference between Palestine and Arabian forms was seen in the case of *Myrmecocichla melanura*. Colonel Yerbury's specimens from Aden agreed with others from Abyssinia and Somaliland; but the Palestine form, hitherto believed to be *M. melanura*, was distinct, and Dr. Sharpe proposed to call it

MYRMECOCICHLA YERBURYI, sp. n.

Similis *M. melanuræ*, sed pallidè cinerea, gutture et pectore dilutè cinereis, minimè vinaceo lavatis distinguenda.  
Long. tot. 6 poll., culmen 0·55, alæ 3·15, caudæ 2·35, tarsi 0·8.

*Hab.* in Palestinâ.

A communication from the Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD pointed out that the generic name of *Drepanorhynchus*, proposed by Dr. Dubois for a new genus of *Fringillidæ*, containing some species hitherto referred to *Spermophila* (cf. Mém. Soc. Zool. France, vii. 1894, p. 400), was not admissible. The generic name *Drepanorhynchus* had been already employed by Dr. Reichenow for a Sun-bird from the Kilimanjaro district in East Africa, and Mr. Rothschild therefore proposed to substitute the name *Spermophilopsis* (nom.

emend.) for the *Drepanorhynchus* of Dr. Dubois. The three species belonging to *Spermophilopsis* would be *S. schistaceus* (Dubois), *S. falcirostris* (Temm.), and *S. superciliaris* (Pelz.).

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also sent to the Meeting the following note :—“ A few weeks ago I received from Mr. Travers a couple of specimens of *Sterna vittata*, Gm., shot in February on the Bounty Islands, to the south-east of New Zealand. There can be no doubt as to the identification of the species, as Mr. Howard Saunders and Mr. Hartert have compared the birds with specimens of *S. vittata* in the British Museum, and I think that this interesting new locality for a rare Antarctic bird is worth recording.”

### XXXI.—Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.

[Continued from p. 293.]

#### 63. *Andrews on some Remains of Æpyornis.*

[On some Remains of *Æpyornis* in the Hon. Walter Rothschild's Museum at Tring. By C. W. Andrews, F.Z.S. Nov. Zool. ii. p. 23.]

The remains described were collected at Itampulu Vé, on the coast north of St. Augustine's Bay, in S.W. Madagascar. A large left tarso-metatarsus and two right femurs are referred provisionally to *Æ. titan*, as is also a distal portion of a left tibio-tarsus of great size. A metatarsus of a different form is believed to be that of *Mullerornis rudis*, Milne-Edw. & Grand., being distinguished by the presence of a completely ossified bony bridge over the lower end of the groove for the adductor of the outer digit. This character necessitated the creation of a new genus, proposed to be called *Flacourtia*.

#### 64. *Annals of Scottish Natural History.* Nos. 13 & 14, 1895.

The chief ornithological feature of No. 13 is an interesting article by Mr. J. A. Harvie-Brown on the distribution and